

GEOG 438: Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania

This course is a survey of the important human and environmental features of Australia, New Zealand, and the island regions of Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia. It provides an introduction to the historical and contemporary cultural, political, economic, and physical processes that have shaped Oceania. Topics that are explored include regional biogeography, island formation, natural disasters, cultural diversity, Indigenous migration and settlement patterns, impacts of European and American colonization, natural resource distributions, economic linkages and development, and political systems.

GEOG 464: Cultural Heritage Tourism

This course provides an overview of issues associated with the identification, interpretation, protection, and management of cultural heritage, drawing on a range of examples from across geographic scales. Specific topics that will be addressed include cultural heritage politics, cultural authenticity, cultural heritage protection laws, the National Register of Historic Places, Connecticut cultural heritage attractions and policies, and challenges associated with managing cultural heritage sites.

GEOG 456: Tourism Management

Effective management is vital to ensuring continued business viability, tourist and employee satisfaction, and the protection of tourism resources. This course provides an overview of the tourism management process, with an emphasis on similarities and differences among tourism products. Among the topics that will be addressed include visitor management strategies, tourist impacts, tourism business operations, service quality measures, tourist satisfaction assessments, cross cultural encounters in the service context, the role of travel intermediaries, and tourist transportation management.

THS 465: Convention, Meeting, and Event Planning

This course introduces the operational issues associated with planning and managing conventions, meetings, and events. It combines detailed analysis of issues and trends affecting this sector of the industry with a real-world project supervised by the instructor. Among the issues discussed are facility management, identifying and selecting venues, negotiating with vendors, developing event budgets, and organizing employees.